IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

O'BRIEN et al

Serial No. 09/043,406

Filed: 18 March 1998

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Atty. Ref.: 36-1148

Group: Unknown

Examiner: MORGAN, G

For: SERVICE PROVISION SYSTEM FOR USE IN

DISTRIBUTED PROCESSING

ENVIRONMENTS

February 29, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action dated 08/31/99, please amend the above-identified application as shown below:

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please substitute the attached Abstract of the Disclosure on a separate sheet for the originally filed PCT abstract.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Since it appears that the August 16, 1999 substitute preliminary amendment may not have been entered, those amendments are repeated below: